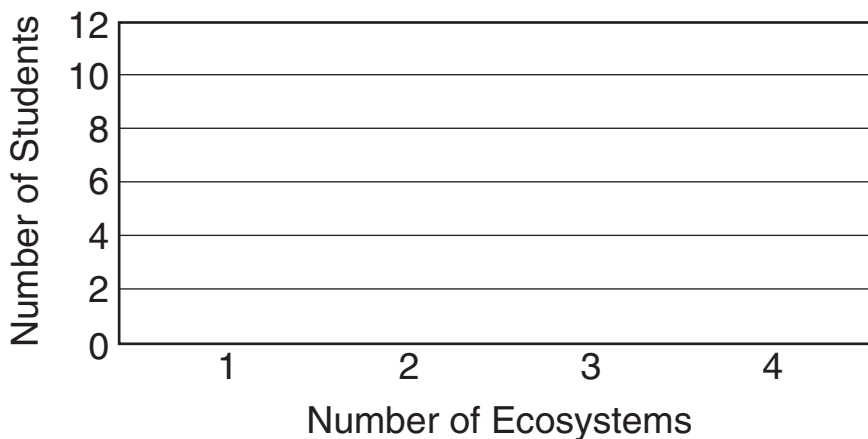


Competition

Procedure

- 1. Use Variables** Your teacher will set up four model ecosystems. Each ecosystem is represented by a plate covered with a sheet of paper. Some plates contain many pretzels, some contain few pretzels, and some contain no pretzels.
- 2. Use Models** Stand in the center of the room. When your teacher says “Go,” choose an ecosystem and walk to it.
Safety: Do not run or push others.
- 3.** Peek under the paper. If there is a pretzel, take the pretzel and stand by the ecosystem. If there are no pretzels, move on to another ecosystem.
- 4.** Repeat step 3 until you find a pretzel.
- 5. Communicate** When every student has found a pretzel, make a bar graph in the space below. The graph should show how many ecosystems each student visited before finding food.

Ecosystems Visited Before Finding Food



Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

- 1. Analyze Data** Which ecosystem held the greatest number of pretzels? The least?

- 2. Predict** How might an organism be affected if the food in its ecosystem were eaten by other organisms?

Investigate More!

Solve a Problem Take away several pretzels, then repeat the activity. Think of ways that each student could still get some food. Share your ideas with your classmates.

